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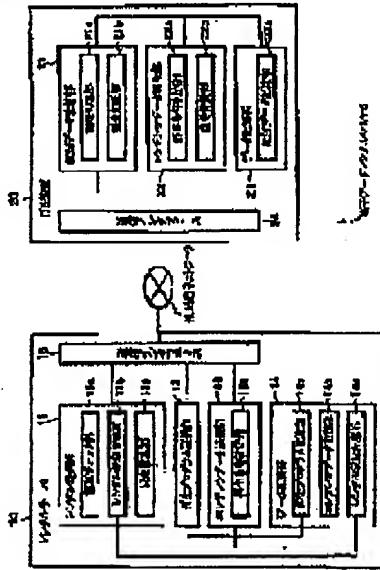
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(54) DEVICE AND METHOD FOR ELECTRONIC DATA RENTAL AND COMPUTER READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM WITH ELECTRONIC DATA RENTAL PROGRAM RECORDED THEREON

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To rent electronic data by setting a rental period for allowing the electronic data to be reproduced.
SOLUTION: A rental server 10 sets the rental period desired by a user from a reproducing device 20 in a reproduction condition as a reproducible period and distributes the rental period together with contents data to the reproducing device 20. In such a case, the server 10 sets the rental situation of the contents data to be rented in 'rental impossible' and prohibits subsequent rental. The device 20 that has downloaded the contents data reproduces the contents data only during the rental period designated in the reproduction condition. Meanwhile, the server 10 checks the rental end date of the rented contents data and returns the rental situation to 'rental possible' when the rental period expires.



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